

REMARKS

As discussed over the telephone with the Examiner, Applicants respectfully submit that the Election of Species requirement is improper because Claims 3, 6, 7, 13, 14 and 15 all read on the elected Species of Figure 8. However, since Claim 8 reads on a figure other than Figure 8 (one example of an embodiment covered by Claim 8 is shown in Figure 10), Applicants submit that dependent Claim 8 should be withdrawn.

Applicants respectfully submit that only a single species of bypass is shown in Figure 8 (and defined by Claims 3, 6, 7, 13, 14 and 15). More specifically, Figure 8 shows a bypass defined by a conductive path extending through gate bus line 218a (the portion on the left of break 292), source electrode 228a, pixel electrode 224a, storage capacitor electrode 236, storage capacitor bus line 226a, drain bus line 220b, and gate bus line 218b (the portion on the right of break 292). In order to define different aspects of the same invention, Applicants have opted to include claims that define the conductive path as extending through certain elements of those mentioned above (i.e., gate bus line 218a, source electrode 228a, pixel electrode 224a, storage capacitor electrode 236, storage capacitor bus line 226a, and drain bus line 220b). However, the claims are drafted to allow for the conductive path to include other elements in addition to those elements specifically defined. Thus, there is only a single embodiment being defined by Claims 3, 6, 7, 13, 14 and 15, and that embodiment is shown in Figure 8, as described above. Accordingly, since the same single conductive path is

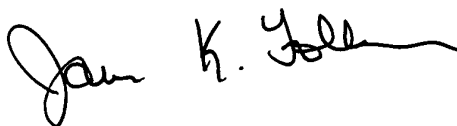
actually being defined in each of Claims 3, 6, 7, 13, 14 and 15, Applicants respectfully submit that this election of species requirement is improper, and that it should be withdrawn.

For the above reasons, Applicant respectfully requests that the election of species requirement be withdrawn and that Claims 3, 6, 7, 13, 14 and 15 should be examined together.

Respectfully Submitted,

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